Federal Communications Commission 445 12<sup>th</sup> St., S.W. Washington, D.C. 20554

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**DA 18-46** 

Released: January 16, 2018

## NATIONAL EXCHANGE CARRIER ASSOCIATION, INC.'S PROPOSED 2018 MODIFICATION OF AVERAGE SCHEDULE FORMULAS PLEADING CYCLE ESTABLISHED

WC Docket No. 17-346

Comment Date: February 15, 2018 Reply Comment Date: March 2, 2018

With this Public Notice, the Wireline Competition Bureau seeks comment on the National Exchange Carrier Association, Inc. (NECA) proposed modification of average schedule formulas. On December 21, 2017, NECA filed with the Commission its proposed modification of average schedule formulas, pursuant to section 69.606 of the Commission's rules. NECA proposes to revise the formulas for average schedule interstate settlement disbursements in connection with the provision of interstate access services for the period beginning July 1, 2018, through June 30, 2019.

NECA states that the methods described in its filing represent the same methods employed in prior years.<sup>3</sup> NECA proposes formula changes that would result in a 5.6% overall increase of settlements at constant demand.<sup>4</sup> NECA states that actual settlements are expected to be lower due to projected losses of access lines and non-DSL demand.<sup>5</sup> In addition, NECA states that impacts of the proposed formula changes on individual average schedule companies will vary, depending on each company's size and demand trends and characteristics.<sup>6</sup>

Pursuant to sections 1.415 and 1.419 of the Commission's rules, 47 CFR §§ 1.415, 1.419, interested parties may file comments and reply comments on or before the dates indicated above. Comments may be filed using the Commission's Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS). *See Electronic Filing of Documents in Rulemaking Proceedings*, 63 FR 24121 (1998).

<sup>4</sup> *Id*.

6 *Id*.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> 47 C.F.R. § 69.606(b). *See* National Exchange Carrier Association, 2018 Modification of Average Schedules, attached to Letter from Richard A. Askoff, Executive Director-Regulatory, NECA, to Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary, FCC, WC Docket No. 17-346 (filed Dec. 21, 2017).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> *Id.* at Introduction-1.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> *Id*.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> *Id*.

- Electronic Filers: Comments may be filed electronically using the Internet by accessing the ECFS: http://fjallfoss.fcc.gov/ecfs2/.
- Paper Filers: Parties who choose to file by paper must file an original and one copy of each filing. Paper filings can be sent by hand or messenger delivery, by commercial overnight courier, or by first-class or overnight U.S. Postal Service mail. All filings must be addressed to the Commission's Secretary, Office of the Secretary, Federal Communications Commission.
  - All hand-delivered or messenger-delivered paper filings for the Commission's Secretary must be delivered to FCC Headquarters at 445 12<sup>th</sup> St., SW, Room TW-A325, Washington, DC 20554. The filing hours are 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. All hand deliveries must be held together with rubber bands or fasteners. All envelopes and boxes must be disposed of <u>before</u> entering the building.
  - Commercial overnight mail (other than U.S. Postal Service Express Mail and Priority Mail) must be sent to 9050 Junction Drive, Annapolis Junction, MD 20701.
  - U.S. Postal Service first-class, Express, and Priority mail must be addressed to 445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, SW, Washington DC 20554.

People with Disabilities: To request materials in accessible formats for people with disabilities (braille, large print, electronic files, audio format), send an e-mail to <a href="fcc504@fcc.gov">fcc504@fcc.gov</a> or call the Consumer & Governmental Affairs Bureau at 202-418-0530 (voice) or 202-418-0432 (tty).

The proceeding this Notice initiates shall be treated as a "permit-but-disclose" proceeding in accordance with the Commission's ex parte rules. Persons making ex parte presentations must file a copy of any written presentation or a memorandum summarizing any oral presentation within two business days after the presentation (unless a different deadline applicable to the Sunshine period applies). Persons making oral exparte presentations are reminded that memoranda summarizing the presentation must (1) list all persons attending or otherwise participating in the meeting at which the ex parte presentation was made, and (2) summarize all data presented and arguments made during the presentation. If the presentation consisted in whole or in part of the presentation of data or arguments already reflected in the presenter's written comments, memoranda or other filings in the proceeding, the presenter may provide citations to such data or arguments in his or her prior comments, memoranda, or other filings (specifying the relevant page and/or paragraph numbers where such data or arguments can be found) in lieu of summarizing them in the memorandum. Documents shown or given to Commission staff during ex parte meetings are deemed to be written ex parte presentations and must be filed consistent with rule 1.1206(b). In proceedings governed by rule 1.49(f) or for which the Commission has made available a method of electronic filing, written ex parte presentations and memoranda summarizing oral ex parte presentations, and all attachments thereto, must be filed through the electronic comment filing system available for that proceeding, and must be filed in their native format (e.g., .doc, .xml, .ppt, searchable .pdf). Participants in this proceeding should familiarize themselves with the Commission's ex parte rules.

For further information, please contact Robin Cohn, Wireline Competition Bureau, Pricing Policy Division, at (202) 418-1520 or via email at robin.cohn@fcc.gov.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> 47 C.F.R. §§ 1.1200 et seq.